

**REMARKS****Examiner:**

5 Claims 1-3, 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

10 Claim 1 is vague and indefinite because the preamble calls for "A method for aiding quality control task management" but there are no steps or processes cited to aid the task management and/or dealt with the quality control issue. Also, it's not clear whether the task management having "an old/existing top first level" since the term "a new top level" indicates the presence of an existing level or old level.

15 In claim 1, lines 16-19, "wherein the top level is used to access the associated sub-processes of the template, and each sub-process is used to access the associated template item files" is vague and not clear what this means.

In claim 1, line 25, the phrase "those items" are vague because it's not clear what are included in the term "those items" or which items are referred to?

20 In claim 15, line 18, the phrase "a conversion system for execution by the processor" is vague and indefinite. It's also not clear how the phrase "generating a quality control test plan" in the conversion system of the memory can be used alone to complete a "computer system for generating a quality control test plan". Are there any other elements involved in a "quality control test plan"? Also, it's not clear whether the test plan having "an old/existing top first level" since the term "a new top first level" indicates the presence of an existing level or old level.

25 Claim 18 is vague because it's not clear the difference of the "a test report file" in this claim with respect to the "one test report file" in claim 15.

30 **Response:**

Independent claims 1 and 15 have been amended to more particularly point

out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention as required.

Specifically concerning claim 1, a limitation of “performing the testing steps associated with the second top level for aiding in the quality control task management” has been added. The testing steps have been previously defined in claim 1 as the steps for performing a quality control test (Page 5, line 24 – Page 6, line 8). This new limitation is directed at providing a claimed step to aid in the Preambled quality control task management. Utilizing the present method for creation and management of a new test plan directly addresses the stated (Page 1, line 21 – Page 2, line 7) prior art problems.

Because the present invention allows the creation of a new test plan specifically tailored for a specific item by selecting one or more template item files from one or more previously created templates, there obviously is an “old/existing top first level” for a previous template. When the new test plan is created, a new top first level that is a peer of the “old/existing top first level” is also created. To clarify this point, claim 1 has been further amended to identify the “old/existing top first level” as “a first top level”, and to identify the newly created top level as “a second top level”. Claims 2-3 have been slightly amended to reflect the change to “second top level”.

The cited term “used to access” (lower level files) in lines 16-19 of claim 1 has been changed to “links to” to more specifically define the associations between the respective levels.

Regarding the term “those items” in line 25 of claim 1, the entire term is “those items which have been selected”. A previous claim 1 limitation had defined the items selected as “utilizing the browser to select a template from the template archive, select a sub-process from the template, and select a template item file from the sub-process”. However, to cooperate with the Examiner to the maximum extent, the term “those items” has been changed to “the sub-process and template item files”.

Regarding claim 15, The Applicant is having difficulty understanding exactly the nature of some of the cited rejections, for example, the term "a conversion system for execution by the processor". Fig.9 and Page 15, lines 15-26 show that the conversion system is resident in memory and is executed by the processor as claimed. Therefore, it should be apparent to one skilled in the art that the conversion system is either software or firmware or both. The term "conversion system" was deemed best choice to describe the computer code that is executed by the processor. Choice of terminology is an inventor's prerogative as long as it is explained (Fig.9 and Page 15, lines 15-26). Fig.7 and Page 9, line 2 – Page 10, line 16 give the details of the functioning of the conversion system which are: Step 310: accept from the browser those items (as defined above) which have been selected by the user; Step 320: copy the selected item files; Step 330: Create a test report file having links to test item files; and Step 340: Create the new top level. It is noted that the originally filed claim limits the present invention by describing the conversion system as including these steps. Admittedly, some details are left for dependent claims, but it is difficult to suggest that the claims do not directly reflect these steps. As such, the term "conversion system" seems well defined within the specification, the drawings, and in the claims.

Furthermore, it is unclear where the Applicant states "generating a quality control test plan" in the conversion system of the memory can be used alone to complete a "computer system for generating a quality control test plan". No such claim has been made. Yes, there are other elements involved in generating the quality control test plan. These include the previously claimed template archive having three linked levels, the third level of which has files having details and instructions for performing a specific test. Another

element is the graphical browser that allowing the user to view the levels of the template archive and/or to select items from the template. The conversion system can accept the list of selected items and form an entirely new test plan. For a device according to the present invention to operate, a computer system is also required (and claimed). The claimed computer system comprises a display (to view the files), a processor (to execute the browser and conversion system), and a memory. The memory comprises the template archive, the graphical browser, and the conversion system. This is a specific, defined structure that can be used to generate a new test plan.

However, to cooperate with the Examiner to the maximum degree, claim 15 has been amended such that the memory additionally comprises viewing software capable of allowing a user to view and edit the copied report files and test item files of the generated quality control test plan (Page 12, lines 7-10). The Preamble has been amended to include "utilizing" the test plan. Claim 15 has also been amended to more clearly distinguish between "a first top first level" and "a second top first level", similarly to what was discussed concerning claim 1. Dependent claim 18 has also been amended as required as "the conversion system creates a copied said at least one test report file".

Additionally, the Examiner has cited US Pat. No. 6,330,573 (Salisbury et al.) teaching a concept and system for renaming an existing document with a new name and a new file while keeping the existing document in the database as being pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure.

One major difference between the present application and Salisbury et al. is that the claims of the present invention allow a user to select a plurality of files from different hierarchies and have the conversion system generate a new test plan maintaining the existing hierarchy. Please refer to the present invention's Fig.6

for an example. As claimed, it is possible for the user to select only the "Windows 3.1 driver test", the "Windows 95 driver test", and the "Magnetic flux test". The "Windows 3.1 driver test" and the "Windows 95 driver test" are shown to be at the same level and the "Magnetic flux test" is shown at a lower level that is not below either of the "Windows 3.1 driver test" or the "Windows 95 driver test". With the claimed present invention, these three files can be selected and converted into a new top level linked to the three selected files in the same hierarchical order. This is not possible with Salisbury et al. where a user must select/rename/move either a single file, a plurality of files within a single directory, or an entire directory. It is not possible, given the setup illustrated in Fig.6, for Salisbury et al. to produce the same end result as the present invention.

All changes are clearly supported in the text and drawings and no new material has been introduced. The Applicant has responded to each and every objection lodged by the Examiner in this Office action and amended claims accordingly. As a result, the Applicant believes that the present application as claimed is a new and useful device and method not taught nor suggested by known prior art and is now in condition for allowance as required. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 11, 2004

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